

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending. By this response, a new title is provided, Claim 1 is amended and Claims 9-13 canceled. Reconsideration and allowance based on the above amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

New Title

The Office Action objects to the title as being non-descriptive of the invention and requests a more descriptive title. Applicants have provided a new title that is more descriptive of the invention. Accordingly withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Prior Art Rejections

The Office Action rejects Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Itabashi et al. (US 5,097,304) and Claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Murade et al. (US 6,433,841). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants note that in the Office Action the Examiner indicates that Claims 3, 11, 12 and 13 contain allowable subject matter. Applicants note that Claim 11 was directly dependent upon Claim 1. Applicants have incorporated the features of Claim 11 into Claim 1 to place Claim 1 in condition for allowance.

Therefore, with the amendment to place Claim 1 in condition for allowance, the rejections with regard to Claim 1 and dependent Claim 2 are moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

Rejoinder of Claims 4-8

Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 as allowable is generic to dependent Claims 4-8. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of dependent Claims 4-8. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the rejoinder of these claims, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants representative Chad J. Billings at 703-205-8001.

Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that that application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings Reg. No. 48,917 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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